



**Date:** August 13, 2004  
**To:** Gerald R. Miller, City Manager  
**From:** Carl Kemp, Manager of Public/Governmental Affairs  
**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**Subject:** City Report: Weekly Update For Week Ending August 13, 2004

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The following weekly update highlighting various activities for the week ending August 13, 2004 is provided for your information. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

**MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

**City Manager**

On August 11, the Budget Oversight Committee (BOC) held a public meeting to review the Proposed Updated Three-Year Financial Strategic Plan. Members of the community joined Committee members, the City Manager, and City staff to hear directly from Department Directors the details of the Proposed Updated Plan, the impacts on their departments, and alternative reduction scenarios that were contemplated but not included in the update.

The BOC scheduled two additional special meetings to discuss their budget recommendations for the full City Council. The first meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m., August 13, on the 13<sup>th</sup> Floor of City Hall. The second meeting, if necessary, is scheduled for 3:00 p.m., Monday, August 16, on the 13<sup>th</sup> Floor of City Hall.

**City Manager**

Lead by Chair Michael Gillette, the Long Beach Youth and Gang Violence Prevention Task Force met on August 9. Steven Giraldo, Co-Chair and youth member of the Los Angeles County Youth Engagement Task Force made a presentation. Mr. Giraldo presented the "Call to Action and Recommendations for Meaningful Youth Engagement" which identified best practices and opportunities for a countywide youth engagement effort that would increase the number of youth actively engaged in civic and community life and in matters that affect them. The Task Force has five themed Action Teams including Media and Communication, Youth Employment, Parenting, Youth Engagement, and Research & Resource Development.

## **MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (continued)**

### **Health and Human Services**

DHHS announced that an 88 year-old Long Beach woman died due to the West Nile Virus on August 9. She is the first known human case of West Nile Virus (WNV) infection and death identified in Long Beach since evidence of the virus appeared in 2003 when dead birds tested positive for the virus.

DHHS staff presented information regarding the West Nile Virus (WNV) on August 12 at the Neighborhood Resource Center, 40 community members attended. The presentation focused on what DHHS is doing to control the mosquito population and reduce the risk of WNV infection in Long Beach. Precautions community members can take against the virus were also discussed. The City Health Officer answered several medically-related questions and concerns from the audience.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

### **City Manager**

On **Tuesday, August 17**, at a public budget workshop scheduled from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Long Beach City Council Chambers, the City Manager will formally present the FY 05 Proposed Budget. Mayor Beverly O'Neill will also present her recommended changes to the FY 05 Proposed Budget.

A series of public workshops and hearings will be held during the months of August and September. The City Council will study and deliberate on the FY 05 Proposed Budget and may recommend changes prior to its adoption.

### **Police**

In an effort to draw awareness to the importance of wearing seatbelts, the Police Department will conduct a citywide seat belt enforcement campaign from **August 12 through 18**. Statistics show that most vehicle collisions occur within five miles of home. Wearing a seatbelt is the most effective action a person can take to protect themselves and their loved ones from injury or death during a traffic collision.

### **Financial Management, Purchasing Division**

Effective **Monday, August 23**, a 2 percent local preference will be in effect for local businesses. When City staff evaluates bids for materials, supplies, equipment and non-professional services with an estimated annual expenditure under \$100,000, Long Beach business enterprises will be granted a 2 percent preference. The local preference will increase by 1 percent each fiscal year until it reaches 5 percent in October 1, 2007.

### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau**

The Fees and Charges Committee of the Long Beach Municipal Golf Commission has held four meetings to review public input and the proposal from American Golf to increase golf fees. The Commissioners will present a recommendation to the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department on **August 25** at the Municipal Golf Commission meeting.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS (continued)**

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau**

The Long Beach Jazz Festival, with an anticipated attendance of 8,000, begins today, **August 13, and runs through the weekend** at the Rainbow Lagoon.

#### **Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau**

On **Sunday, August 15**, Rancho Los Cerritos will offer "Mud Mania: A Celebration of Adobe," from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. This popular family event includes hands-on, adobe-related educational activities and live bluegrass music.

During the week of **August 14-19**, the International Children's Traveling Theatre will continue its production of "Clean-Up Your Act" at the following locations: Tuesday, August 17, 11:00 a.m., at Houghton Park; Tuesday, August 17, 2:00 p.m., at California Recreation Center; and Thursday, August 19, 2:00 p.m., at Pan American Park. The International City Theater in Long Beach is a professional theater partnering with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine to make quality theater experience accessible for children and families. The program offers children the opportunity to experience instruction in acting, music, mime, and movement taught by industry professionals.

The Summer Youth Conservatory of Musical Theatre West will present "West Side Story," which will play for three performances only, from **August 20 through August 22**, at 8:00 p.m. at Recreation Park, 4900 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street. The Summer Youth Conservatory of Musical Theatre West was founded in 1998, to provide opportunities for young performers to develop their skills in a professional environment. The conservatory is an integral part of the Youth Cultural Enrichment Program. The energetic young cast of over 30 comes from Southern California and represents over 22 different high schools.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### **Health and Human Services**

The DHHS Bioterrorism Unit conducted a Smallpox Mass Vaccination tabletop exercise. Twenty-eight staff members, mostly nurses, participated in this four-hour exercise, which included a progression of scenarios depicting a local smallpox incident and possible solutions to contain the infection.

#### **Fire**

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,171 emergency calls for service: 151 calls were for fires and 26 of those involved structures. The Department also responded to 727 emergency medical calls; 512 requiring paramedics.

#### **Police**

The newest canine member of the Police Department's K9 team is "Truda." She is currently in training with her new handler and will specialize in bombs and explosives.

**PUBLIC SAFETY (continued)**

Career Criminal Apprehension Team Detectives conducted an undercover operation involving the sale of reported stolen high-end SUV seats. Detectives executed two search warrants in Riverside, resulting in the arrest of a suspect and recovery of property in excess of \$105,000.

**NEIGHBORHOODS**

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau**

Accessibility improvements continued this week at MacArthur, Silverado, and Whaley Parks. The highly visible portions of the skate park construction at Houghton Park are underway, with the pouring of concrete for the bowls. Construction continues at Officer Daryle W. Black Memorial Park.

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Services Bureau**

On August 7, the Neighborhood Leadership Falcons began their community project at the Homeland Cultural Center. The community group planted flowers around the "Tot Lot" and on Warren Avenue, with 50 children and 35 adults participating.

**Library Services**

Raising a Reader, the new school and reading readiness program for preschool children, has begun at four additional libraries. The twelve-week book bag program is now in operation at Dana, Mark Twain, North, and Main Library. Burnett Library, one of the original pilot library locations, has also launched its second cycle. Seventy-five parents will be sharing 50 books with their children, establishing new library connections and participating in graduation ceremonies at the end of October.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

**Community Development, Administrative and Financial Services Bureau**

City staff held the bimonthly "*Networking with the City of Long Beach*" workshop on August 3. The event assists small businesses to expand networking opportunities with local businesses, the City of Long Beach and other public entities.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Maintenance Operations Bureau**

Heartwell and El Dorado Parks hosted the California Sun and Surf Soccer Tournament on August 7-9; 190 teams participated in this international soccer tournament.

**Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau**

The International Sea Festival's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Land Meets Sea Sports Camp was held August 10-13 at Marine Stadium.

Warner Brothers TV, with a cast and crew of 175, filmed "Jack & Bobby" on August 9-11 at Cabrillo High School.

**OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE**

**Human Resources Department**

On July 21, the Civil Service Commission approved an Order of Layoff for employees impacted in the current year's budget by the Three-Year Financial Strategic Plan. The Department of Human Resources has identified new positions for all those employees impacted by these staffing reductions and is now ready to present to the Civil Service Commission a request to permanently transfer or assign the impacted employees to new classifications. The permanent assignment of these impacted employees is the final step in the Transition Plan to ensure that no employees would lose their jobs. All other impacted employees have already transitioned into new positions.

**Long Beach Energy, Gas Services Bureau**

Gas Services Bureau completed a total of 3,081 service calls during the week of August 1 through August 7. This total included 1,219 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons and 736 Turn Offs, and 913 Customer Service Orders for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 213 meter-maintenance and billing related orders were completed. Seventy-six customer emergency orders were completed during this period.

**Public Works**

Staff installed 252 sidewalk patches, repaired 601 potholes and trimmed 542 trees citywide.

GRM:CK:kp  
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cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager  
Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager  
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City Manager Department Heads  
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